

D-2358

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
Special Branch REGISTRATION
No. S. B. D. 2358.
Date May 12, 1931.
File 12-5-31.

Subject (in full)

Further Report in re Attached

Made by

D. S. Golder

Forwarded by

Henry Robertson C.P.I.

From the meagre information at hand regarding the landing of the light aeroplane on the race course on Monday, May 4, it would appear that Robert Short was apprehensive regarding the machine's safety in the Hungjao Aerodrome, and so at about 11.30 a.m. on that day went to the Hungjao Aerodrome with a view to bringing the machine to the Settlement. He apparently is known at the Aerodrome, therefore the soldiers on duty did not take much notice when he entered the hanger in which the plane was stored. From the reports on the matter, he is supposed to have tinkered with the plane for some minutes, then having got the engine running he ran the plane into the open, opened up the engine and took off. The soldiers stationed at the Aerodrome would have undoubtedly stopped him had they thought he was going to take the machine.

Enfold
D. S.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

Commissioner of Police,
Sir,

Information

Reufm

File

JH

18:5:19.

JH

O/c Sp. Br.

12:5:31.

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Shanghai, 12:5: 1931.

To

SI,

Please explain,
if possible, how
short managed to
get possession of the
plane at the
Hungjao Aerodrome.

D.S. Golder

Please comply.

H.R. 12/21.

[Signature]

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

File No. _____
SHANGHAI K. _____
Special Branch No. 10 _____
No. S. B. D. 2358
Date May 11, 1931
at 12-5-31

Subject (in full) Re Landing of Aeroplane on Race Course on

Monday, May 4, 1931.

Made by D. B. Golder

Forwarded by *Henry Robertson C.D.I.*

The machine which landed on the Race Course about noon on Monday, May 4, is a Kinner Fleet 2 seater 100 H.P. machine, which was flown from the Hungjao Aerodrome by Robert Short, residing at the Foreign Y.M.C.A.

The plane was sent out to China by the manufacturers, the "Consolidated Aircraft Corporation of Buffalo", New York. The machine was taken to Hanking where it was flown by Captain Schumaker, who was sent out here as a demonstration pilot, after leaving Hanking the plane was flown to the Hungjao Aerodrome where it was left pending a decision as to its disposal. In the meantime Captain Schumaker left for the States leaving the ship uncared for. It was Schumaker's intention to attempt the trans-Pacific flight and it is supposed that he has returned to the U.S.A. with intent to find a backer. Mr. Carl Mahmmacher of 565 Avenue Foch hearing that the machine had been apparently abandoned on the Race Course went to Mr. Howard, the United States Trade Attache (Aviation) and informed him that as the representative of the Kinner interests in China, he, Carl Mahmmacher, would place the ^{machine} ship in his garage on Avenue Foch pending the arrival of the owner, whose identity is at present not known.

The machine at present is stored in the Mahmmacher Garage, Avenue Foch, where it will be held pending payment for the overhauling which is being done.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

Em J. L. S.

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL,

Shanghai, 9:51 1936.

To

SI,

Please make
discreet inquiries
and submit a
short report.

J. H. L.

D. S. Golder,

please comply.

A.R. 11/21.

MYSTERY PLANE RUN AT RACE COURSE

BROKEN ON LINE IN CRASH Craft Forced Down On Monday

PUBLIC INTRIGUED BY ITS APPEARANCE

A trim yellow plane, its engine covered with a tarpaulin and trailing noise the first of the kind at the Race Course, this plane was seen to crash on Monday morning. The plane, which was seen to crash on Monday morning, was a "Pilot" model, owned by the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation of Buffalo, New York, powered with a Kinner motor, and was sent out to China for demonstration purposes. Capt. Schumacher, the American airman who planned to fly the Pacific and who is now in Japan, is the China agent, and has demonstrated the plane in Nanking and in other cities.

Pilot Unknown

An inquiry yesterday by a representative of "The Shanghai Times" partially uncovered the mystery, but just what time the plane came down, or who was the pilot, still remains to be solved.

The plane is a "Pilot" model, owned by the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation of Buffalo, New York, powered with a Kinner motor, and was sent out to China for demonstration purposes. Capt. Schumacher, the American airman who planned to fly the Pacific and who is now in Japan, is the China agent, and has demonstrated the plane in Nanking and in other cities.

Oil Line Broken

Few if any of those present at the Race Course on Monday noon noticed the plane land, but land it did before the start of the day's races. However, the pilot did not advertise the fact more than ring up Mr. C. N. Nussmecher, well-known local resident and motor expert who is the China agent for the Kinner motor, and inform him that the plane's oil line was broken and would he see that the necessary repairs were carried out. Mr. Nussmecher, yesterday stated that he didn't even have time to find out who pilot was.

On reaching where the plane had landed, Mr. Nussmecher found it deserted, not even the customary crowd of club police looking around. An examination revealed that the oil line had been broken, which obviously caused the forced landing. After inspecting the motor and taking out the broken parts, Mr. Nussmecher had a mechanic placed over the motor and left. Since then the plane has been resting on the Race Course unattended and until the last day or two, without attracting considerable attention.

Plane Not Repaired

The broken oil line has been repaired and will be started in a day or so, but owing to the sudden state of the ground at the Race Course, it is not expected that the pilot, who came to race, will attempt to fly again in a few more days.

8-9
11-1

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CHINESE SEEK PILOT OF U. S. PLANE

The plane was seen flying over the Race Course on Monday afternoon. It was reported that the pilot was a foreigner and that the plane was a biplane.

CRASHED DOWN MONDAY AT RACE COURSE

An American pilot, said to be a former member of the United States Air Corps, was reported to have crashed his biplane at the Race Course on Monday afternoon. The plane was seen flying over the Race Course on Monday afternoon. It was reported that the pilot was a foreigner and that the plane was a biplane.

The pilot is reported to be the one who was forced down at midday on Monday at the Race Course in a "Fleet" motor plane owned by the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation of Buffalo, N. Y. The forced descent was due to a broken oil line.

It was revealed yesterday to a representative of "The Shanghai Times," that the plane had been left some time ago at the Hungjiao Aerodrome by Capt. Schumacher, the American airman who announced his intention to fly the Pacific. Capt. Schumacher, it was stated, left the plane at the aerodrome on his departure for Japan. The latest information regarding him was that he had arrived in San Francisco on April 27.

The officials at the Hungjiao Aerodrome gave instructions that the plane was not to be flown without express permission. Shortly before noon on Monday, it is reported, a foreigner, dressed in mufti, was observed examining the plane.

The Chinese guards on duty paid little attention, even when the plane came to life with a roar, ran down the field for some distance and then climbed up in the

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 5.)

CHINESE SEEK PILOT OF U. S. PLANE

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5.) direction of Shanghai. Not until the plane was a mere speck in the sky did the officials realize what had happened.

The pilot landed just as quietly as he had departed and no sooner had his craft come to rest on the Race Course than he was out and away. No one appears to have paid any particular attention to him.

Mr. C. Nahmmacher, local garage owner and local agent for the Kinner motor, with which the plane is powered, received a telephone call on Monday informing him that a broken fuel line in the plane needed repairing. Who called him up he did not know, and is still in the dark.

Yesterday afternoon, Mr. Nahmmacher and a crew of employees were busily engaged in dismantling the plane, and about 2 p.m. had it towed to his garage for repairs. The local garage owner is puzzled as to who will eventually get the plane, and as to who the pilot was, but, as he said yesterday:

"Well, all I know is that the motor needs going over and the oil line needs repairing, and as the local agent for the Kinner motor, I'll see that this is done."

MP
9/5/-